



Camp Creek Drainage Improvement Project October 22, 2013 Community Meeting

Small Group Response Summary

Question #1: *Our group believes the following issues should not be included on the preliminary issues list:*

There were few suggestions for issues that should be deleted from the preliminary issues list. Nine of the 27 groups suggested deleting specific design ideas related to the 31st Street drainage channel, specifically covering or elevating the channel or adding guard rails.

Two groups suggested deleting consideration of retention ponds and use of the reservoirs in Garden of the Gods, and two groups suggested deleting from the list widening of 31st Street.

Question #2: *We believe the following issues are missing and should be added to the issues:*

There were few additional issues suggested by the small groups. Based on the responses, three new issue categories were added, including access (as a sub-category under Traffic/Streets/Bridges category), maintenance following construction and project timeline.

Regarding access, responses focused on concern about the existing lack of access to/from the west of the Pleasant Valley neighborhood, the limited number of access points available to neighborhood residents in case of flood or fire, the need for improvement of access points across the Creek. In suggesting maintenance as an additional issue, people expressed concern about what they perceive to be a lack of current maintenance of the 31st Street channel, and a need for routine maintenance of any solution that is constructed as a result of this project. Responses related to timeline dealt with the need for a project timeline and information about next steps.

Some existing issues drew additional comments and suggestions from the small groups, primarily in the Design, Flooding/Drainage, Traffic/Streets and Bridges and Trails categories.

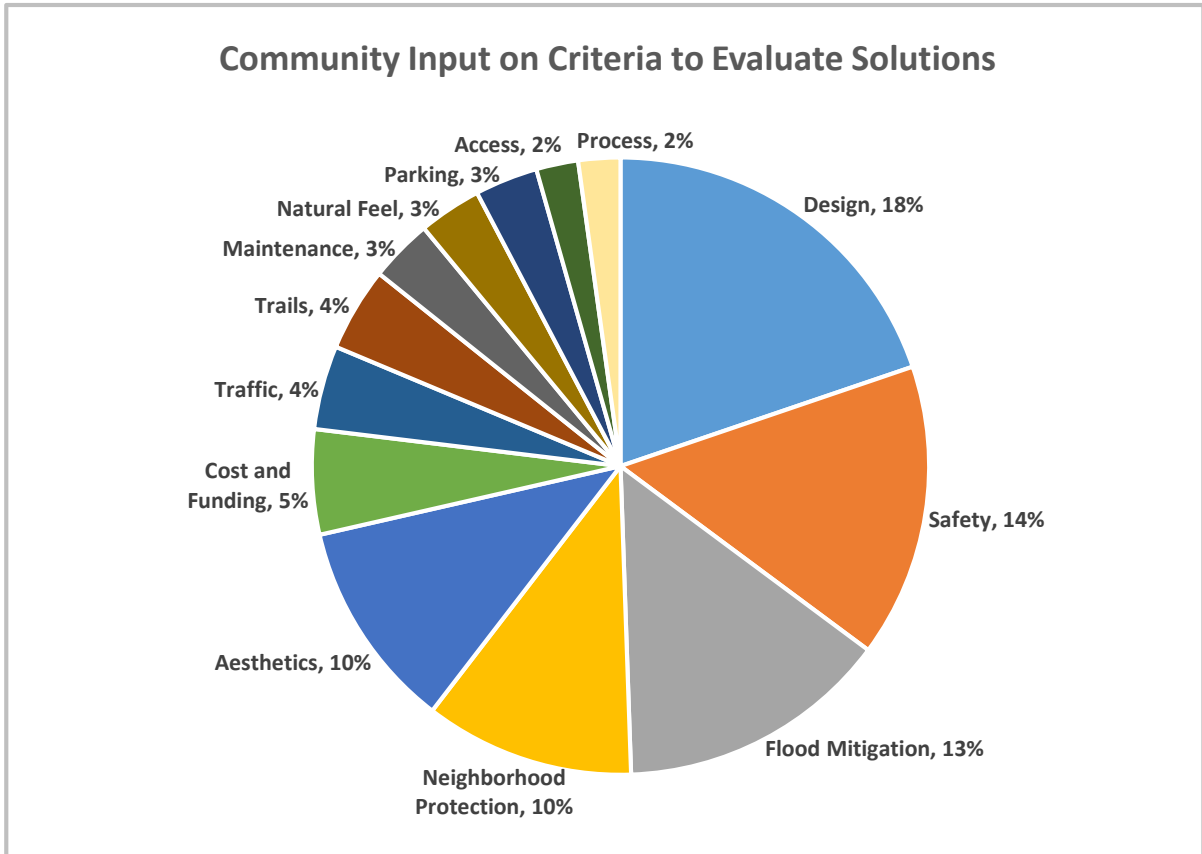
Question #3: *Our group suggests the following criteria be used to evaluate alternative Camp Creek drainage improvement solutions:*

There was a high degree of consistency among small group participants' ideas regarding evaluation criteria that should be considered by the City project team. Of the 13 criteria categories suggested, five categories received the most mention, including in descending order of mentions, design, safety, flood mitigation, neighborhood protection and aesthetics.

In the design category, groups' comments focused primarily on various ideas for the 31st Street channel design, and on ideas for and impacts of design in the Garden of the Gods design. Safety-related comments were straightforward, with most group simply stating "safety." Regarding flood mitigation as one criterion, most group participants' comments focused the desire for a solution that would take their homes out of a 100-year floodplain, provide the capacity and functionality to eliminate the risk of flooding and return the area to pre-Waldo fire flood risk level. Participants' comments related to neighborhood protection dealt with the protection of property, property values

and the character of the Pleasant Valley neighborhood. Aesthetics is the last of the five top-tier criteria, with small group comments ranging from aesthetics of the 31st Street channel, the aesthetics of the Pleasant Valley neighborhood, to aesthetics of the project in general.

Specific comments regarding eight additional criteria can be found in the verbatim small group responses on pages 11 – 12.



Small Group Verbatim Responses by Issues Category

Question #1: Our group believes the following issues should not be included on the preliminary issues list:

Cultural History / Resources

- Cultural history should be a low priority?
- Omit cultural history/resources as it is duplicated under Rock Ledge Ranch

Construction

- Construction, not at this time

Delete No Issues

- None
- All should be included
- They should all be considered
- No deletions
- All issues seem important. Before the next meeting, please e-mail us to have more time to give better feedback
- None
- We would not eliminate any of these stated issues at this point
- All issues are important but safety is a priority. Functional, safe and beautiful

Design

General Design

- No retention ponds

31st Street Channel Design

- We don't think we should worry about benches or a cover over the channel. We need something big enough to handle a big flood
- [Priority] #2 should be ditch design for neighborhood
- Do not cover Camp Creek. Make it a natural waterway just like Denver has done with Cherry Creek. It's used by the community. Treat our waterways like they are precious and inviting, not treated like a prohibited area
- [Delete] any type of concrete tube or cover!
- Build a raised structure over the ditch seems the silliest item there
- No guard rails
- Under the 31st Street Channel Design category, take out raised structure

- No raised structure over the 31st Street part of Camp Creek
- Covering the Creek or creating meandering Creek seems impractical
- No guard rails

Design in Garden of the Gods / Rock Ledge Ranch

- It's not possible to use the existing reservoirs in Garden of the Gods because they're too high and won't work
- Using reservoirs not necessary/efficient

History of the Area

- Omit last item in history of area. [There was a check dam in the Garden of the Gods that the City filled last year. It was a concrete-lined pond]

Natural Feel / Environment

- Seems that "natural feel" along the ditch is a minor concern compared to handling the flow of water and keeping muck out of our homes. Will not "vegetation" and "a meandering stream" slow water flow? Seems unrealistic. A ditch is a ditch

Safety

- Priority should emphasize #1 safety
- Safety should not be on the list. We take our chances and wait to see if a 50- or 100-year flood even happens

Traffic/Streets/Bridges

- Widening 31st Street under Traffic/Streets/Bridges would be a challenge. This statement seems confusing—how would it be done?
- No widening of 31st Street

Tourist Economy

- Tourist economy shouldn't be listed as a high priority. Consider functionality first and the aesthetics

Views

- Eliminate the views section—safety first

Other

- Self-serving comments not necessary—see asterisk (*note: participant did not provide information regarding the referenced comments*)

Question #2: We believe the following issues are missing and should be added to the issues:

Construction

- Will construction work hours be from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.? Will work/construction take place on weekends?

Cultural History/Resources

- Are there any pre-existing contracts between the Native Americans that can cause challenges to this project?
- Don't forget Native American culture and previous studies

Design

General Design

- Utility modifications, i.e. water, gas, sewer
- Design plans should include separation of storm water and sewer
- Will there be a diversion pond close to Glen Eyrie?

31st Street Channel Design

- Consider re-establishing a wetland in place of the channel
- No more future drainage into ditch
- Find ways to slow the flow of water before it goes through Pleasant Valley (catch basin)
- Rock, rip-rap bottom is nicer than concrete bottom
- Re-route (water, sewer) drainage from west and east sides to reduce Camp Creek volume (drainage from Fontanero Street canyon)

Garden of the Gods/ Rock Ledge Ranch Design

- The issue of the flow path just north of Chambers Way. The Chapel would need to be moved. The 'S' curve would need to be straightened
- Channels through Park are shallow
- Is this project going to have an entryway to Garden of the Gods Park?

Flooding/Drainage

- Redefine the floodplain based on design that will reduce flood insurance
- Are the factors for resolving a flash flood the same as resolving a 100-year flood?
- Will you take into consideration the 1965 flood?
- Need to have planning regarding the underground springs that exist in the area. Please consider the drainage from Mesa Road down to 30th Street. Bridges over 31st to reach west side of Pleasant Valley need to be expanded for better flow

- Flooding/drainage has not overtopped in the last 50 years
- American Indian site is currently located in a flood area and needs to be moved to higher ground

Funding

- Concern about special tax district, i.e. Pleasant Valley will be expected to cover the increased cost. Tourist tax for Garden of the Gods area?
- What are outside sources for funding, such as area developers and other business?
- Will there be a tax increase?
- Can we look at foundational (national) grants from organizations that support historic areas?
- Action step or Plan B if you don't get grant funding now
- Any 31st Street channel design would need to be funded for the future?

Maintenance

- Maintenance: how will the project be maintained once complete?
- Maintain a clear corridor through Pleasant Valley, i.e. ensure 31st is maintained
- Any 31st Street channel design would need to be maintained for the future?
- During this planning and designing phase, regularly maintain the ditch and culverts
- Maintenance after the work is done
- Funding should include maintenance plan

Safety

- Safety—prevent cars/people from falling in the channel
- Will there be a siren for safety?

Timeline

- Establish a timeline for doing something?
- Timeline
- What's next step?

Traffic/Streets/Bridges

Access

- What about making more outlets to leave Pleasant Valley in case of a big flood?
- A west side exit from the Valley? Fontanero to 32nd and Bijou?
- Only four access points to the neighborhood is a problem—for evacuation in future fires, for example
- Safety—5th access to the west should be considered

- Not 5th access by extending 31st to 30th by Mother's Chapel
- We need egress from the area from those areas west of 31st. ? Easement?
- Getting in and out of Pleasant Valley in a big flood—traffic control plan in flood emergency getting in or out
- Access points across Creek need improvement

Bridges

- Wider bridge over Creek to get to Howbert. Put in bridge just like the one on Rockledge Ranch just north of Chambers Way. Put in wide speed bumps that meet up with bridge across Creek at Howbert. It would be safer for crossing guards
- Concern about Colorado Avenue bridge (about two blocks long) since the flow through the tunnel if blocked will affect all the way up. Now inadequate to handle the flow
- Pedestrian bridges over the floodway

Streets

- #1 Not extending 31st north to attach to Garden of the Gods, 30th, or other roads
- Bike lanes and safety during construction and maintaining them later...there are tons of bikes on 31st as 30th is too fast and narrow
- Curbs at Creek washed out. Needs immediate attention
- Repartition parking lane and bike lane, traffic lane area between road and sidewalk to allow bigger Creek with integrated bike path
- Roundabouts at Water Street and Fontanero St. on 31st. Not red lights or stop signs
- Connect to Midland Trail (bike path)

Traffic

- Fontanero – 31st Street is a terrible four-way stop intersection—can traffic flow/patterns be improved through construction? Many residents avoid driving this way
- The 4-way stop will eventually need to be a light
- Traffic and parking congestion, especially in the area of Howbert School

Trails/Recreation

- Multi-use trails connecting the important areas of Rock Ledge, Garden of the Gods
- Trails need to be improved
- Recreational activities such as walking, hiking, biking, and kayaking. (Yes, there is kayaking in Camp Creek)
- Create an improved trail experience—connect to Midland Trail

Other

- How do water rights affect possible solutions?
- We didn't come up with anything missing from the list
- Consider impact of climate change
- Accountability—whose?

Question #3: Our group suggests the following criteria be used to evaluate alternative Camp Creek drainage improvement solutions:

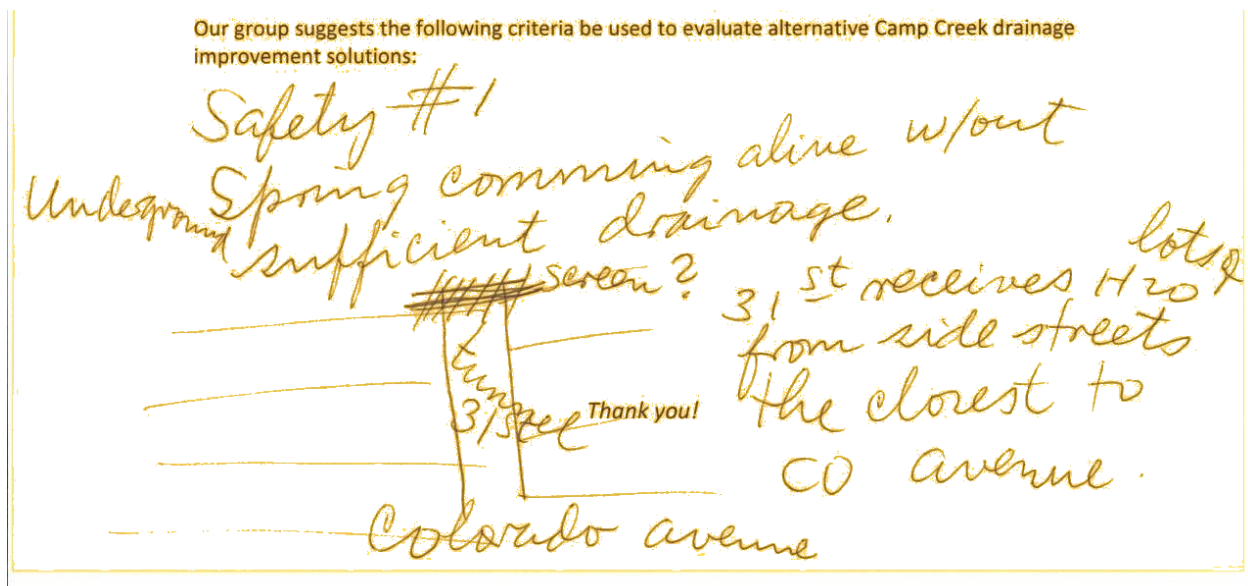
Design (18 responses)

General

- Make the sediment deposition area (alluvial fan) a natural reservoir
- Make it all natural again
- Go with the flow of the Creek
- Design
- Technically acceptable
- Sets benchmark for all COS storm water projects
- Retention ponds: have seen them work well in situations before
- Functional

31st Street Channel Design

- Underground springs coming alive without sufficient drainage. 31st Street receives lots of water from side streets, the closest to Colorado Avenue. *(Drawing below also submitted on participant's form):*



- Natural creek bed with bike bath—do not cover
- Improve and terrace the floodway, and deepen as well
- Rip-rap and check structures on bottom
- Higher curbs with more curb cuts to channel water into floodway
- Resurface/reline ditch and explore increasing depth of ditch—higher curbs

Garden of the Gods/Rock Ledge Ranch Design

- Protect Garden of the Gods
- Continue consideration of holding ponds north of Gateway Road
- Think that PV neighborhood was spared from flooding because the Creek was able to spread out north of Gateway Road and drop all of that sediment up there. How can we employ/ensure that sort of natural help again?
- Elevate Gateway Road for natural berm/flood control
- Preservation of Garden of the Gods and Rock Ledge Ranch site (beauty, culture, history)

Safety (14 responses)

- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety from flooding
- Safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. (Since on-street parking is a problem for bicycles, maybe on-street parking should go)
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety
- Safety and function
- Safety
- Has to do its job—safety
- Safety
- Safety #1
- Safety of people, cars, animals

Flood Mitigation (13 responses)

- Fixing the flooding issues
- We are concerned that the correct water flow is used so that the channel is built to handle a big flood
- More mitigation higher (Queens Canyon)

- Flood mitigation (keep Creek in banks)
- Eliminate 100-year floodplain
- Flooding and drainage
- Accommodating the flow
- Return to pre-Waldo flood risk. Re-evaluate model
- Flood mitigation
- Prevent flooding
- Has to effectively protect Pleasant Valley and our property values. We are thinking more of a 100-year flood, rather than a 500-year flood
- Find out from FEMA the following: 1. When was this area designated as a 100-year floodplain? 2. What criteria was used to make this designation? 3. What would have to be done to remove this 100-year floodplain designation? 4. Is FEMA aware that a ditch runs down the middle of Pleasant Valley and is designed for a 50-year flood?
- Drainage function/capacity

Neighborhood Protection (10 responses)

- Protect property value
- Protect property
- Protect property
- Property value protection
- [Protect] the neighborhood
- High consideration for Pleasant Valley neighborhood—view from Visitor Center is important but not at expense of safety for Pleasant Valley residents
- Improves property values
- Maintain neighborhood character
- Respect Pleasant Valley homeowners
- Protection for homes and neighborhood

Aesthetics (10 responses)

- Protect aesthetics
- Do not destroy aesthetics of neighborhood
- Pleasing aesthetics of 31st channel
- Aesthetics
- Aesthetics
- Aesthetics for neighborhood and community
- Aesthetics

- Aesthetics
- Aesthetically pleasing
- Aesthetic

Cost/Funding (5 responses)

- Cost
- Funding/cost
- Funding
- Cost-effective construction and maintenance
- Best value, not lowest price

Traffic (4 responses)

- Doesn't create a heavier traffic flow for the neighborhood
- Traffic impacts
- Traffic/streets/bridges
- Traffic congestion

Trails/Recreation (4 responses)

- Ute Trail has blind spots and is dangerous to bike
- Minimize trail impact
- Trails that make this a healthy community
- Recreation

Maintenance (3 responses)

- Maintain
- Long-term maintenance/repair
- Maintainable

Natural Feel/Environment (3 responses)

- Protect environment
- Natural state—get rid of ALL the concrete and let Mother Nature return the natural state of the once-beautiful Camp Creek drainage
- Natural

Parking (3 responses)

- Maintain parking ability on 31st
- Parking
- On-street parking maintained on 31st Street

Access (2 responses)

- Access to Rock Ledge Ranch and Garden of the Gods cannot be impeded during high tourist season
- Access out of neighborhood

Community Process (2 responses)

- Please continue to hold community meetings and listen to their concerns
- Community process

Other (9 responses)

- [Protect] historic culture
- Sustainability—in materials purchase and of the design
- Long-term solution
- Improves community values
- Does no harm
- Prioritize
- As a City/County, we need more ongoing storm water management, not just individual major projects
- Timelines
- Sediment issues

Additional comments:

- Issues List (Preliminary):
 1. Safety
 - People
 - Property
 2. The top end of 31st Street where it connects with Rock Ledge Ranch needs to be improved
 3. What areas empty into Camp Creek, say from Mesa/Fontanero?
 4. Slowing the pace of the floodwater between Queens Canyon and Rock Ledge Ranch/31st St.
 5. Native American interests
 6. Creek at north end of 31st could be straightened
 7. Aesthetics should not be ignored, but beautification is not the top priority
 8. Pleasant Valley needs a secure exit point